Government of Punjab
Department of Social Justice, Empowerment and Minorities
(Reservation Cell)
Order

Dated, Chandigarh: 29.12.2021

Governor of Punjab is pleased to constitute the Punjab State Commission for General Category, as per the detail given below:-

1. (1) This commission shall be called as "the Punjab State Commission for General Category".

(2) The jurisdiction of this commission shall extend to the whole of Punjab state.

(3) It shall come into force on the date of the issue of this notification.

(4)The head quarter of this commission shall remain at Chandigarh.

2. (1) This commission shall exercise the powers conferred on it and to perform the functions assigned to it as provided in this notification.

(2) This commission shall consist of the following office bearers and members nominated by the State Government;

(a) An eminent person having knowledge of the problems and issues of these classes shall be the Chairperson.

(b) A person having special knowledge in the matters relating the General Category of the society shall be Vice Chairperson.

(c) Three persons having special knowledge relating to issues pertaining to General Category and field experience shall be members.

(d) A social scientist, having knowledge of these castes & communities shall be member.

(e) A member-secretary who is or has been not below the rank of joint secretary of the State Government shall be appointed by the State Government.

(f) State Government shall, as far as possible, ensure to nominate members covering maximum castes/communities from the General Category.

3. Term of office and condition of services of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and other Members

(1) Every member including Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall hold

the office for a term of three years from the date he assumes office or upto the pleasure of the State Government, whichever is earlier.

(2) A member including Chairperson and Vice Chairperson may by writing under his hand addressed to the State Government resign from the office held by him.

(3) The State Government shall remove a person from the office of this commission if that person-

(a) Becomes an undischarged insolvent;

(b) Is convicted and sentenced to imprisonment of an offence which, in the opinion of the State Government, involves moral turpitude;

(c) Becomes of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court;

(d) Refuses to act or becomes incapable of acting;

(e) is, without obtaining leave of absence from the commission, absent from three consecutive meetings of the commission; or

(f) Has, in the opinion if the State Government, so abused the position of chairperson or member as to render that person's continuance in office detrimental to the interest of General Category or the public interest;

Provided that no person shall be removed from the commission until that person has been given an opportunity of being heard in the matter.

(4) The salaries and allowances payable to and the terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson and members shall be such as may be prescribed.

4. Officers and other employees of the commission-

(1) The State Government shall provide the Commission with such officers and employees as may be necessary for the efficient performance of the functions of the commission.

(2) The salaries and allowances payable to, and the other terms and conditions of service of the officers and other employees appointed for the purpose of the commission shall be such as may be prescribed.

5. Salaries and allowances to be paid out of grants - The salaries and

allowances payable to the Chairperson, Vice chairperson and Members and the administrative expenses, including salaries, allowances and pensions payable to the officers and other employees of the commission shall be paid from the grants given by the State Government.

6. Vacancies, etc., not to invalidate proceedings of the Commission—No act or proceedings of the Commission shall be invalid on the ground merely of the existence of any vacancy or defect in the constitution of the Commission.

7. Procedure to be regulated by the Commission—

(1) The Commission shall meet as and when necessary at such time and place as the Chairperson may think fit.

(2) The Commission shall regulate its own procedure.

(3) All orders and decisions of the Commission shall be authenticated by the Member-Secretary or any other officer of the Commission duly authorized by the Member-Secretary in this behalf.

8. Objectives, functions and power of the commission:

(1) The commission shall examine the grievances, problems and issues of the General Category of the Punjab state and recommend the solutions of such grievances, problems and issues of these sections of the society.

(2) The commission shall study and survey the socio-economic condition of the marginalized and poor persons and families of the General Category of society and formulate welfare schemes for their advancement and recommend to the Government for its implementation.

(3) It shall study the existing welfare schemes of the Punjab State Government and recommend how to implement them in the interest of the General Category of state.

(4) The commission shall study welfare policies of other states and union territories also and shall recommend to State Government if any policy is adaptable or not.

(5) The commission shall act as a body to recommend the implementation of the safeguards and protections provided for General Category in the directive principles and other parts of

constitution.

(6) The commission shall have power to call necessary information from any government department, government or semi govt. bodies, public sector undertakings and autonomous bodies and to travel in the entire state, whenever it is required for the purpose of this commission and in the interest of the targeted General Category.

(7) The commission shall do any other specific function or duty given by the State Government.

9. Grants by the State Government—

(1) The State Government shall, after due appropriation made by Assembly by law in this behalf, pay to the Commission by way of grants such sums of money as the State Government may think fit for being utilized for the purposes of this commission.

(2) The Commission may spend such sums as it thinks fit for performing the functions assigned to it, and such sums shall be treated as expenditure payable out of the grants given by the state government.

10. Accounts and audit—

(1) The Commission shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare an annual statement of accounts in such form as may be prescribed by the State Government in consultation with the Accountant General, Punjab.

(2) The accounts of the Commission shall be audited by the Accountant General (Audit) Punjab or other competent authority at such intervals as may be specified by him and any expenditure incurred in connection with such audit shall be payable by the Commission to the Accountant General, Punjab.

(3) The Accountant General (Audit) Punjab and any person appointed by him in connection with the audit of the accounts of the Commission shall have the same rights and privileges and the authority in connection with such audit as the Accountant General (Audit), Punjab generally has in connection with the audit of Government accounts and, in particular, shall have the right to demand the production of books, accounts, connected vouchers and other documents and

papers and to inspect any of the offices of the Commission.

11. Annual report—The Commission shall prepare, in such form and at such time, for each financial year, as may be prescribed, its annual report giving a full account of its activities during the previous financial year and forward a copy thereof to the State Government.

Dated, Chandigarh:
the 29 December,2021

(Ramesh Kumar Ganta), I.A.S
Principal Secretary,Social Justice,
Empowerment and Minorities.

A copy of above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:

1. Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Punjab.
2. OSD to Chief Secretary, Punjab.
3. Principal Secretary, Department of Finance, Punjab.
4. Director, Social Justice, Empowerment and Minorities, Punjab.
5. Superintendent, Cabinet Affairs Branch, Department of General administration in reference to their letter no. 1/355/2021-1Cabinet/10285 dated 24.12.2021.

Under Secretary

Copy:

1. Private Secretary/Minister, Social Justice, Empowerment and Minorities Department, Punjab.
2. Private Secretary/Principal Secretary, Social Justice, Empowerment and Minorities Minister, Punjab.